

From the Top Shelf

A message from Stephen Fulchino, Library Director

Twenty-Ten or Two-Thousand-Ten, however you say it, it will be a busy year at the Library.

Back in April, Nineteen-Ten, someone, we don't know who, took out a book and failed to return it. Some years later, they gave the book, "Facts I Ought to Know about the Government of My Country," to a young immigrant woman who was studying to become a citizen. Mary Piela succeeded in her quest and married. After her death her son, Stanley Dudek, came across the book and returned it to the Library in December a mere 99 years overdue.

While the story has gone around the world, one detail has puzzled the present staff of the Library: Where was the Library located in April and May 1910?

The present Library building had been City Hall and what is now City Hall had been the Library. In 1906, a fire destroyed the interior of City Hall. The city government decided to expand both buildings and to switch their uses. The new Library opened in December 1910. Obviously, however, during construction the Library had to have a temporary site. Where was it?

I expect our Special Collections Department will have the answer – by the time we have the celebration in December.

Before that happens, however, the Lawler Branch on Rockdale Avenue will have two celebrations of its own.

This is the 50th Anniversary of its opening in 1960. And the branch will be opening a new Teen Room early this year.

So, 2010 is the year of celebrations at the Library. Come and join us – just bring back your books before they are 99 years overdue!

Trustees of the New Bedford Free Public Library: Mayor Scott Lang, Carl Cruz, Rev. Constantine S. Bebis, Mary-Ellen Bergeron, Dr. John Fletcher, Elsie R. Fraga, James L. Henry, Helen Rogers, Dr. Joseph Silva, Jr., Barry G. Trahan

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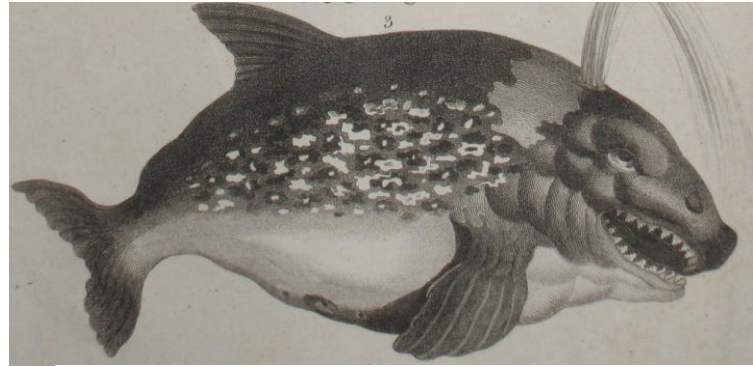
A Library Bestiary: Prints from the Art Collection

Lions and tigers and whales, oh my! Since prehistoric man created the first cave paintings, creatures of the land and sea have inspired artists.

The library's new exhibit, *A Library Bestiary*, features denizens of the animal, reptile and insect worlds garnered from the library's print collection.

These works, dating from the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries, present varied interpretations of the animal world ranging from the scientific to the fanciful to the bizarre.

Included in the exhibition are engravings, woodcuts, lithographs and photos by Alexander Wilson, Eadweard Muybridge, Titian Peale, Alexander Lawson and Henry Marsh. The exhibit, located on the third floor of the Main Library, runs January 18 – March 27, 2010.



This charmingly sinister orca, engraved in London in 1803, is from one of the many prints on view in the exhibition *A Library Bestiary*.

Parlez-Vous Français?

Want to learn to speak French this year? How about Spanish, Portuguese or even Mandarin Chinese?

Now you can with Mango Languages!

Whether you want to seriously study a language, or just want to pick up enough to get around on vacation, Mango Languages offers both beginning and advanced lessons.

Mango also offers lessons for those who speak Portuguese or Spanish and want to improve their English speaking or reading.

Just go to the Library's Web site, www.newbedfordlibrary.org, and click on the "Mango Languages" link to get started.

Create a profile to keep track of your progress, or start learning immediately without logging in.

Kidz Korner

New Releases for Young People

- Anderson, Laurie Halse – *Chains*
- Brett, Jan – *The Easter Egg*
- Hunter, Erin – *The Last Wilderness (Seekers #4)*
- Lasky, Kathryn – *Lone Wolf*
- Lerangis, Peter – *The Viper's Nest (39 Clues Book 7)*
- Myers, Walter Dean – *Lockdown*
- O'Connor, Jane – *Fancy Nancy: Every Day is Earth Day*
- Osborne, Mary Pope – *Leprechaun in Late Winter (Magic Tree house #43)*
- Rylant, Cynthia – *Brownie and Pearl Step Out*
- Stilton, Geronimo – *Karate Mouse*
- Willems, Mo – *I am Going!*
- Yolen, Jane – *How Do Dinosaurs Love Their Cats?*
- Yolen, Jane – *How Do Dinosaurs Love Their Dogs?*

Library Awarded Prestigious Grant

The New Bedford Free Public Library has won a grant to create a Teen Room at its Lawler Branch in Buttonwood Park.

The grant is from the Institute of Museum and Library Services through the Library Services and Technology Act, administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

The Lawler Library will use the \$20,000 federal grant, "Serving 'Tweens and Teens," to furnish a teen room, develop a collection of materials for the 'Tween and Teen patrons, and to run programs geared toward patrons of those ages.

Branch Librarian Denise Plaskon says, "We are excited about offering teen services and giving teens an opportunity to learn, grow and explore in a safe, stimulating space."

This teen space will be a casual, teen-only area for teens to gather to work and study, along with an area to have programs, socialize and utilize the new technology purchased with the grant monies.

Library Director Stephen Fulchino has congratulated Judith Downey, Head of Branches, and Denise Plaskon, for writing the grant proposal. "I would also like to commend the Rotary Club of Greater New Bedford for donating \$1250 to supplement the grant," Fulchino said.

Consulting the Library's Teen Advisory Group, Mrs. Plaskon has already begun the process of converting the book sale room for use as a Teen Space, selecting new furniture and getting ideas for programs. The Teen Room is set to open in spring 2010, and will serve as a pilot project for the city libraries.

Presépio at Casa da Saudade

Casa da Saudade once again mounted an exhibition of the presépio with the assistance of Roberto Medeiros, President of the newly-formed Associação Mosaico Cultural e Solidária of Lagoa, Sao Miguel, Acores.

Roberto Medeiros, the former vice-mayor of Lagoa, organized this new association to continue the work begun more than 20 years ago to bring Azorean artisans and culture to the U.S. and Canada. Branch Manager Judy Downey along with Library Director Stephen Fulchino attended a protocol signing at City Hall for the organization in early November and Ms. Downey signed a protocol on behalf of Casa.

This presépio exhibit, as well as the three others mounted this holiday season in the United States, was made possible with the assistance of the Azorean airline, SATA, and the Regional Secretary of Economy of the Azores. In addition, Aires Oliveira and José António Pires, of the UCLA – Friends of Lagoa of New England, aided Mr. Medeiros with the installation of the exhibit.

All of the figures and buildings are hand-made from terra cotta clay, then hand-painted and kiln-fired. The principal three sets of figures in the Casa version represent the romeiros (pilgrims), a philharmonic band and the procession of the sr. Santo Cristo. All of these figures were created by artisan, António Morais, of Lagoa. This set was donated to Casa da Saudade in 2004 by Roberto Medeiros in his former position as Vice-Mayor of Lagoa.

In addition to these figures, Mr. Medeiros brought representative samples of different forms of the presépio and in different materials including cornhusk, natural clay, and one under a glass dome. These were displayed in a separate exhibit case.

What has now become a tradition of displaying the presépios in the area began in 1999 with an invitation through Dr. Mary T. Vermette to create an exhibition at the New Bedford Art Museum. A portrait of her by Deborah Macy hangs at the Casa da Saudade.



The Hot List (Upcoming Books)

These popular authors are publishing new books in the next few months. They might not be in bookstores or libraries yet, but if they are in our catalog, you can still put them on hold and be near the top of the list!



January

- Beaton, M.C. – *Death of a Valentine*
 - Bloom, Amy – *Where the God of Love Hangs Out*
 - Chevalier, Tracy – *Remarkable Creatures*
 - Cornwell, Bernard – *The Burning Land*
 - Crais, Robert – *First Rule*
 - Dekker, Ted – *Burn*
 - Delinsky, Barbara – *Not My Daughter*
 - Finder, Joseph – *Watchlist*
 - Hess, Joan – *Merry Wives of Maggody*
 - Higgins, Jack – *Wolf at the Door*
- Hooper, Kay – *Blood Ties*
 - Kaminsky, Stuart – *A Whisper to the Living*
 - Keyes, Marian – *Brightest Star in the Sky*
 - Lescroart, John – *Treasure Hunt*
 - McCaffrey, Anne – *Catalyst*
 - Oates, Joyce Carol – *A Fair Maiden*
 - Parker, T. Jefferson – *Iron River*
 - Preston, Douglas – *Impact*
 - Rankin, Ian – *Doors Open*
 - Tyler, Anne – *Noah’s Compass*
 - Woods, Stuart – *Kisser*

February

- Atherton, Nancy – *Aunt Dimity Down Under*
 - Berenson, Alex – *The Midnight House*
 - Fluke, Joanne – *Apple Turnover Murder*
 - Grippando, James – *Money to Burn*
 - Hamilton, Laurell K. – *Flirt*
 - Hannah, Kristen – *Winter Garden*
 - Hill, Joe – *Horns*
- Palmer, Michael – *The Last Surgeon*
 - Parker, Robert – *Split Image*
 - Patterson, James – *Worst Case*
 - Robb, J.D. – *Fantasy in Death*
 - Stabenow, Dana – *A Night Too Dark*
 - Steel, Danielle – *Big Girl*
 - Straub, Peter – *A Dark Matter*
 - Trigiani, Adriana – *Brava, Valentine*

March

- Bass, Jefferson – *The Bone Thief*
 - Bernhardt, William – *Capitol Betrayal*
 - Burke, Alafair – *212*
 - Cannell, Stephen – *Pallbearers*
- Coben, Harlan – *Caught*
 - Cruisie, Jennifer – *Wild Ride*
 - Farstein, Linda – *Hell Gate*
 - Kellerman, Jonathan – *Deception*
 - Picoult, Jodi – *House Rules*

This newsletter is produced by the staff of the New Bedford Free Public Library.
Contributors: Paul Cyr, Geoffrey Dickinson, Judith Downey, Dale Easton, Stephen Fulchino, Janis Gomes, Janice Hodson, Mary Kruger, Denise Plaskon and Karen Stefanik

It’s Show Time!

All the New Bedford libraries have movie licenses and will be bringing you a mix of old and new films for adults and children every month

January

Lawler	January 5 @2pm – <i>Akeela and the Bee</i> January 19 @2pm – <i>Girl with a Pearl Earring</i> Cartoons will be shown every Saturday before story hour
Wilks	January 12 @5:30pm – <i>National Treasure: Book of Secrets</i> January 16 @11am – <i>Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince</i>
Howland-Green	January 9 @2pm – <i>Up</i> January 23 @2pm – <i>Paul Blart Mall Cop</i>
Casa da Saudade	January 9 @1pm – <i>G-Force</i> January 12 @3pm – <i>Julie and Julia</i>
Main	January 13 @6pm – <i>Happy Feet</i> January 20 @2pm – <i>The Bucket List</i>

February

Lawler	February 2 @2pm – <i>Field of Dreams</i> February 16 @2pm – <i>Doubt</i> Cartoons will be shown every Saturday before story hour
Wilks	February 9 @5:30pm – <i>Remember the Titans</i> February 13 @11am – <i>High School Musical 3: Senior Year</i>
Howland-Green	February 6 @2pm – <i>The Wiz</i> February 20 @2pm – <i>The Great Debaters</i>
Casa da Saudade	February 8 @3pm – <i>Black Orpheus</i> (in Portuguese) February 13 @1pm – <i>Kung Fu Panda</i>
Main	February 10 @6pm – <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> February 17 @2pm – <i>Australia</i>

Looking for something to do with the kids over February school vacation?

Don’t forget to take advantage of the free and discounted museum passes offered by the New Bedford libraries! All libraries have free passes to the Buttonwood Zoo. The Main Library also has discounted passes to:

- New Bedford Whaling Museum
- Boston Children’s Museum
- JFK Presidential Library & Museum
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Museum of Science
- New England Aquarium
- Plimoth Plantation

Call any library or you can reserve your passes through our Web site!

What’s Going On?

Ongoing

Story Hours

Winter story time runs from January 25 to March 13.

• Wilks – Wednesdays @10:30am

• Howland-Green – Thursdays @3:30pm

• Casa – Portuguese story hour – Tuesdays – Jan. 26 and Feb. 23 @6pm

• Main Library – Saturdays @11am

• Lawler – Saturdays @1pm

February School Vacation – Feb. 16 – 20

Special Events

• Wilks – Wednesday, Feb. 17 @11am

• Casa – Wednesday, Feb. 17 @2pm

• Howland-Green – Thursday, Feb. 18 @3:30pm

• Lawler – Friday, Feb. 19 @1pm

• Main Library – Saturday, Feb. 20 @11am

Movies

• Wilks – Tuesday, Feb. 16 @1pm – *Up*

• Howland-Green – Tuesday, Feb. 16 @3pm – *Snow Day*

• Main Library – Tuesday, Feb. 16 @6pm – *G-Force*

• Lawler – Thursday, Feb. 18 @1pm – *Goonies*

• Casa – Thursday, Feb. 18 @3pm – *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*

Matinee Magic

Free movies at every library. See page 6 for movies and times.

Exhibits

“A Library Bestiary: Prints from the Art Collection”

January 18 – March 27; Main Library, 3rd floor

This exhibit includes works ranging from the 17th through 19th centuries which feature animals, insects and reptiles.

Lecture

“Whalemen from the Pacific, Cholera and Mr. Congdon” (AHA! Night)

February 11 @7pm; Main Library, 3rd floor meeting room

Hear about New Bedford’s 1834 cholera outbreak, its causes and its impact on the whaling community.

January

12

Lawler Library Book Club

January’s book is *1,000 White Women* by Jim Fergus.

➤ Lawler Library; 2 – 4pm

14, 22, 26

Scrabble Scramble

Come play Scrabble!

➤ Lawler Library; 1 – 3pm

26

Wilks Library Book Club (Book Bites)

January’s book is *Mister Pip* by Lloyd Jones.

➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm

February

4, 8, 23

Scrabble Scramble

Come play Scrabble!

➤ Lawler Library; 1 – 3pm

9

Lawler Library Book Club

February’s book is *Switched at Birth* by local author Frederick George, who will be joining the meeting.

➤ Lawler Library; 2 – 4pm

11, 25

Writers’ Group

Come discuss your work and get tips and feedback. All writers welcome.

➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm

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Wilks Library Book Club (Book Bites)

February’s book is *A Private Disgrace: Lizzie Borden by Daylight* by Victoria Lincoln.

➤ Wilks Library; 6 – 7:30pm

Hours & Locations

Main Library

613 Pleasant St.

508-991-6275

TTY: 508-991-6258

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

9am – 9pm

9am – 9pm

1pm – 9pm

9am – 9pm

9am – 12:30pm

9am – 5pm

Genealogy Department

3rd floor of Main Library

508-991-6276

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

9am – 9pm

9am – 9pm

1pm – 9pm

9am – 5pm

9am – 12:30pm

9am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm

Art Room

3rd floor of Main Library

508-979-1787

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday:

Friday:

Saturday:

closed

1pm – 5pm

1pm – 5pm

1pm – 5pm; 6pm – 9pm

9am – 12:30pm

9am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm

Casa da Saudade

58 Crapo St.

508-991-6218

Wilks

1911 Acushnet Ave.

508-991-6214

Mon:

Tue:

Wed:

Thu:

Fri:

Sat:

10am – 6pm

12pm – 8pm

10am – 6pm

12pm – 8pm

closed

9am – 5pm

Lawler

745 Rockdale Ave.

508-991-6216

Howland-Green

3 Rodney French Blvd.

508-991-6212

Mon:

Tue:

Wed:

Thu:

Fri:

Sat:

10am – 6pm

12pm – 8pm

closed

12pm – 8pm

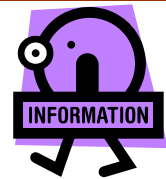
10am – 6pm

9am – 5pm

Bookmobile

The Bookmobile visits schools, neighborhoods and adult centers throughout New Bedford. For the Bookmobile schedule, please call 508-991-6214.

Did You Know? Literary Criticism Online



The New Bedford Free Public Library has purchased a research database called Literary Criticism Online. This is a one-stop searchable database for our 3 large collections of criticisms: *Contemporary Literary Criticism* (280+ volumes), *Twentieth Century Literary Criticism*, and *Nineteenth Century Literary Criticism*, all online, all full-text.

Find biographies about an author’s life and work, critical essays about his/her work and in some cases interviews.

This database is available from your home computer, as well as within the library. Simply go to our web page: www.newbedfordlibrary.org.

Under the Quick Links, select Literary Criticism Online. Since this is a purchase by New Bedford, and not the SAILS network, you will need to enter a valid New Bedford Library Card number as your password.

You can search by entering your terms in the search box and clicking the button. You can limit your search to any individual series or all of them. The results provided will display the full-text of the article. Simply select the title of the article you wish to view. You can also browse the list of available authors, works or topics.



It’s That Taxing Time of Year Again!

Pick up the basic state and federal forms, schedules and instructions at your local branch.

Cut here for an Hours & Locations bookmark